

## **Call to Order**

Chair Penney called the meeting to order on February 15, 2006 at 8:35 AM. She presented Merriman with a plaque in appreciation for his term of service and leadership as Chair for 2004/2005.

## **Approval of Agenda**

Barnett moved to approve the agenda as written.

Bridges seconded.

The motion carried unanimously.

## **Welcome**

Penney introduced Dr. Kenneth Minnaert, President of South Puget Sound Community College (SPSCC), who welcomed Commissioners, staff and guests to the campus.

Dr. Minnaert said it was fitting for WSAC to be holding their meeting at the newly constructed arts center. He invited everyone to tour the facility. He said that SPSCC began as a vocational, technical institution in 1962. In 1969 SPSCC moved into the community college system. In the early years of this system, the focus was on the basics of math, science and English courses. In the early 1990s the arts became a more prominent focus, beginning with art, music and then drama. When the new arts center building was completed last fall, it signified an evolution of the college to be fully comprehensive, providing students and the community with an array of opportunities in the fine and performing arts. He referred to the various public art pieces placed throughout the campus.

Cassie Welliver, Host and Executive Director of the Kenneth J. Minnaert Center for the Arts, invited all to a tour of the facility during the lunch break.

## **Chair's Report**

Penney referred to her report included in the packet and on file.

She referred Commissioners to the advocacy breakout group discussion on pages 11 through 15 of the packet. This discussion took place at the Aberdeen Commission meeting in November 2005.

She stated that there was a very low Commissioner turnout at Arts Day and our advocates and partners noticed this. She reiterated that the goal of WSAC is advocacy. WSAC plans on making a significant "ask" and relationship building is essential.

Moore commented that it is also important for Commissioners to build relationships with legislators in their home districts on a regular basis in between sessions. It is difficult to have meaningful discussions only on Arts Day. Legislators are more accessible at home.

Penney stated that an out-of-session visitation schedule across the state before September will give Commissioners an opportunity for a clear presentation and delivery for the new fiscal budget. She said that grass-roots communication is essential.

## **Director's Report**

Tucker referred to her report included in the packet and on file.

She said she was pleased that Commissioners are focused on advocacy as a priority role since that is where the most significant difference is made.

Jonathan Katz, Executive Director of the National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA) was in Tacoma recently for the national meeting of the Arts Education Partnership. He met with Senator Thibaudeau, Representative Kessler and staff regarding

advocacy and NEA funding initiatives. Katz may be able to attend a Commission meeting in the near future.

Tucker introduced Lou MacMillan who joined WSAC staff in early December as Deputy Director. Lou is responsible for financial, personnel and operations.

The State Quarter Advisory Commission (SQAC) is moving forward. The three design recommendations are back in Washington DC being reviewed by the Office of the US Treasurer and the US Mint. Within the next month or so the design recommendations will be online for the public poll. The SQAC will then forward the public poll results to the Governor who will finalize the recommendation. At the time the recommendations go online, Commissioners will receive an email requesting help to get the word out.

Tucker reviewed the strategic planning and budget process for the 2007-2009 biennium. Claudia Bach will be facilitating a discussion about this process later in the meeting. Every two years the state develops a biennial budget. WSAC's budget request is submitted to the Office of Financial Management (OFM) in August for the next biennium, which starts July 1, 2007 and goes through June 30, 2009. WSAC has to submit the strategic plan to OFM on May 1, 2006. The 2007 session is a long session because of budget deliberations. WSAC's goal is to create a strategic plan that is clear and compelling; identifies resources in a budget request and convinces the Governor that the budget is worth supporting. If WSAC's budget request is not in the Governor's budget, Tucker cannot advocate for it. The strategic plan that is being submitted in May is not a start-over plan. A start-over plan is done every four years. This is the year to look at what was submitted two years ago; refine and refresh it and then submit it again to OFM. At today's meeting a facilitator will help Commissioners look at WSAC's goal and mission to make sure they are aligned with issues, opportunities and trends. The plan revision will be a process led by staff. The Interim Committee will be advising and it will go to OFM before the Commission meets again.

### **Consent Agenda**

Penney called for a motion to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2005 Commission meeting in Aberdeen.

Chacon moved to accept the minutes as written.

Sneed seconded

The motion carried unanimously.

Penney called for a motion to ratify the Professional Development Assistance Program (PDAP).

Moore moved to ratify the PDAP decisions of the Executive Director as submitted.

Smith seconded.

The motion carried unanimously.

Penney called for a motion to approve the ratification of the Project Support Program (PSP) Report - FY2006 - Round 2

Bruce remarked about a correction on page 23, noting the Omak Performing Arts Center totals did not compute with an incorrect amount in NEA funding.

Moore moved to approve the PSP report with the noted correction.

Mandeborg seconded.

The motion carried unanimously.

### **Arts Education Resources Initiative (AERI)**

Lisa Jaret, Arts Education Program Manager introduced Susy Watts, co-evaluator of the Arts Education Resources Initiative and an experienced arts educator with expertise in assessment and research.

Jaret stated that this project began a number of years ago. The goal was to look at what was working in our state and what strategies would best move arts education forward.

Susy Watts and Gerri Spilka were hired as the research team; they worked with the Arts Implementation Task Force (a group of about 30 people) to develop the attributes frameworks. Susy and Gerri distributed a statewide survey to K-12 principals and received a 21% response rate. They then did visits to 32 schools and interviews with arts teams. The AERI booklet is based on their research report; additional sources for the AERI booklet were WSAC's Community Consortium evaluations and the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) information.

Watts provided a PowerPoint presentation as an overview to the project and summarized overall findings:

- Evidence of commitment to arts education, state standards, and exemplary instruction
- Arts-committed schools demonstrate ability to find resources and implement creative scheduling strategies
- About ½ the principals report improvement in their abilities to deliver arts education in the last five years
- Documented arts curriculum aligned with the state EALRs is weak
- Reliance on individual catalysts and champions: arts instruction is fragile
- Strong appetite for professional development
- In many communities, the arts are still discretionary

Watts noted that success involves a long list of stakeholders including educators, arts providers, community members, funders and policy members. Of investigation were the elements of effective, sustainable practice in six key areas: curriculum, assessment, teaching capacity, collaboration, scheduling and funding.

Watts suggested that WSAC's role with the AERI is to distribute, partner and provide programs, services and leadership. Commissioners' roles are to apply information to their communities, share with leaders and potential partners, educate local policy makers and to report back any successes and challenges and create a call to action.

### **Strategic Plan for 2006-2011**

Tucker stated that, as she mentioned earlier in the meeting, it is time to update the strategic plan for budget development for the next biennium.

She introduced Claudia Bach, founder of BizArts located in Seattle. Bach is a well-known consultant in the state of Washington. She was also the lead in the Washington Artists Health Insurance Project.

Bach described the process that would capture ideas and began by stating that her goal was to move Commissioners through a process and provide material for staff to use in defining the strategic plan. Bach referred to WSAC's mission as the focus of today's work:

Increase citizen access to and participation in the arts;

Incorporate the arts into the education of every Washington K-12 student;

Increase public support for the arts.

WSAC's five objectives are listed in the Commission packet, beginning on page 25 and included in The Arts Work for Washington section; these identify the measurable results to accomplish in 2005-2011:

- 1) Enhance the ability of arts organizations to improve artistic quality, organizational stability and outreach;
- 2) Increase participation in the arts by traditionally underserved communities;

- 3) Improve teaching and learning by supporting and promoting sustainable arts-based curricula and programs in K-12 public schools;
- 4) Integrate and conserve visual art in public spaces;
- 5) Develop and pursue an agenda to enhance public policy that supports the arts.

Bach stated that the purpose of today's discussion is to focus on the three goals to clarify WSAC's intentions and future direction, specifically looking at the 2007-2009 biennium.

Tucker said that WSAC is not starting from scratch but building on a strategic plan that was developed a few years ago under the leadership of Commissioner Moore and the Futures Committee who worked with the Priorities of Government process. The focus is the 2007-2009 biennium but OFM also requires that the agency look beyond that. The strategic plan goes to OFM on May 1; all Commissioners will have opportunities to weigh in by email and online: Commissioners can review a draft in April, and staff will send a recap of this meeting in early March. At the August Commission meeting, the budget request for the 2007-2009 biennium will be refined and the advocacy plans will be finalized for the next legislative session.

Tucker said staff and guests will observe this discussion.

Bach asked Commissioners to envision accomplishments by the year 2009.

JP: 30% increase to arts education grantees

MN: Second AERI report shows progress

MN: CVI for each area of the state

JM: Have participated in health care reform

CC and MB: CENTRUM is fully accessible as are all cooperative partners

SS: Increased arts participation of underserved communities across the state, not just in WSAC programs

JP: An increase at least 2 FTE at WSAC as per strategic plan

MB: Increased WSAC budget due to successful lobbying

CC: Website fully accessible

CS: Professional and workforce development for artists and arts community statewide

CB: Funding for K-12 transportation to arts events

JM: Maintenance and conservation funded for public art program, per plan

SS: More arts advocates

VC: Human resource bank for professional development/arts education

MG: Increase in awareness/acceptance of value of arts in economic development

JM: Better language around intrinsic value of arts

CB: Identified models (5-10) of success/excellence for each objective

VC: Art education curriculum includes multicultural, speaks to Latino population

CC: 15-member access advisory committee that tracks and reports on statewide issues

MN: Mentoring program for small arts organizations. Clone Bitsy. Partnerships.

Monte: "Arts for every citizen" - resource on arts participation across WA

Ben: Vastly expanded cooperative partnership program. "Coopetition" (compete/cooperation). Work together to help build audiences

CB: Consider Washington Art Consortium coalitions of 7 museums

CS: Arts business training for high school students

Bach asked Commissioners what must align for that 2009 vision to be realized.

Advocacy!

WSAC/WSAA connection

CB: Identifying excellence  
 CS: Toolkits/roadmaps/checklists  
 CB: CVI study well distributed statewide  
 Bill Me: Strong local advocacy ongoing  
 JM: Working closely with staff; listening to staff  
 CC: Public event/festival based on principles we've established. Celebration/festival.  
 MB: Non-traditional alliances - beyond "arts"  
 MG: Thoughtful resource distribution; careful prioritization (staff, commissioners, time, money).  
 CF: What are the priorities? Involve and focus everyone; objectives under objectives  
 VC: Speakers forum/bank of individuals in arts for advocacy (could be local/regional/state). Accomplishments, values, best practices.  
 Bill Me: Attitudinal shift in advocacy voice - more offensive; less defense, more offense.

Bach asked Commissioners to identify current issues, trends and opportunities for each goal.

### **GOAL 1: ACCESS AND PARTICIPATION**

CB, JM: More assertive/less passive about public art. Get people to see the art. Educational value, publicity for WSAC  
 JP: Public facilities districts legislation is an opportunity to influence community development. Increase public knowledge. Bring artists in early. Design for accessibility.  
 SS: Identify and highlight art going on in "underserved" communities. These are also advocates. Grow capacity in different ways, including outside organizations.  
 JM: Identify and overcome barriers around language, etc.  
 MG: partnerships to overcome barriers.  
 VC: Work with commissions linked to "underserved" communities

### **GOAL 2: ARTS EDUCATION**

Bill M: Working with assessment issues already on table  
 CB: Link WSAC to Board of Education, etc. or others; present to/meet with state board of education, OSPI, HEC board.  
 CS: Partnership with community colleges  
 Monte: Increasing concern that WASL is excluding arts, other subjects. Capture and nurture "whole child" value of arts in education discussion  
 MN: Use AERI tactics as appropriate  
 MG: Capture teachers' knowledge to build on - don't lose curriculum  
 Ben: Teachers of art/teaching artists working together effectively  
 JM: More support for teaching artists - residency opportunity or tech assistance

### **GOAL 3: PUBLIC POLICY**

JM: Partnering in WAHIP with other partners; WSAC role is relevant, Gov is tracking.  
 CB: Increasing private support? Field trips as inspiring experiences, example of private contribution  
 Ben: Build public commitment to cultural policy.  
 SS, Ben, CS: Develop clear message around values/contribution - all of WSAC efforts - all levels.  
 JM: Approach should be assertive, proactive, proud, clear. Not aggressive.

Bach asked Commissioners to write on note cards issues, trends or opportunities related to each goal.

#### **GOAL 1 - INCREASE CITIZEN ACCESS TO AND PARTICIPATION IN THE ARTS**

- Models of excellence and success - best
- Increased participation by underserved populations
- Increase WSAC staff by 2 full FTE
- Growing participation and capacity of underserved communities
- Cooperative partnerships with other arts organizations
- Cooperative partnership providing technical assistance to small arts organizations
- Improve accessibility for all partners
- Maintenance funding for public art program
- Look to and for nontraditional partners (sing beyond the choir)
- Leadership and professional development
- Technical assistance and mentoring for small and mid-sized arts organizations and commissions
- Encourage multi-cultural or cross-cultural activities/collaborations
- Determine what is working across the state in improving access to the arts for every citizen
- Alignment of existing programs and partnerships
- Demonstrate importance, overall value of the arts in public life
- More money to support business-skills training to artists
- Access to arts for all with emphasis on disability, multi-cultural, underserved
- Arts participation: create and promote non-conventional ways to encourage and support at all levels of community
- Access and inclusion - break down barriers (disabilities/cultural/education/geographic)
- Research report: Arts for All

#### **GOAL 2 - INCORPORATE THE ARTS INTO THE EDUCATION OF EVERY WASHINGTON K-12 STUDENT**

- Support access/exposure of K-12 to existing arts events (museums, theaters, etc.)
- 30% increase to arts education grantees
- Value-added: push arts education curriculum statewide
- Small business, entrepreneurial-ship mentorship training for high school and community artists of all ages
- Arts business training - statewide programs
- Building future audiences
- Arts in education! Fuel and fund in deliberate and strategic methods to enhance and progress the AERI
- Partnerships - increased energy around partnerships so funds and human resources can be combined (K-12)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> or ongoing AERI reports
- Increase the size and number of education grants

#### **GOAL 3 - INCREASE PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR THE ARTS**

- 30% increase grant \$\$\$

- Washington artists health insurance project (WAHIP)
- CVI for each area of the state
- Advocacy at the local level
- Increase budget through thorough advocacy. Every day is arts day
- Mentor use of CVI across the state
- Advocating for state support
- Why the state arts commission needs budget increase
- Advocacy! To and beyond state authorities (local community and corporate leaders)
- Restore and ask for more money to WSAC
- Top issues: Coalition building to allow us (WSAC) to focus our agenda on the things we do best
- Increase in budget with lobbying
- Demonstrate wonderful linkage between the arts and corporate/business - economic development
- Identify programs of excellence as examples of WSAC's objectives (what works, what does success look like)
- CVI - increase energy around this activity - try to make it less costly for local area "buy-in"
- Understanding/support by local political, civic, business leaders (better language to discuss intrinsic value of the arts)
- More advocacy tools and support information - more public relations
- Increase in budget
- Access to health insurance for artists (independent workers); addressing from policy to implementation

## Advocacy

Johnston, Executive Director of the Washington State Arts Alliance (WSAA) thanked Commissioners for attending Arts Day. She reiterated the fact that advocacy was not just something to do in the brief period of time spent with legislators on Arts Day. Arts Day is an important day not only to see legislators but also to see constituents and make important connections.

The WSAA board will work with Commissioners to achieve work that staff and the Commission cannot do, such as coordinate grass-roots efforts. Once WSAC has the strategic plan in place, Johnston will be traveling around the state holding advocacy training in communities where Commissioners are located. She will be contacting each Commissioner to assist in the trainings and recruit people to attend. The talking points need to be very clear; people need to be trained to make appointments and to be clear about the "ask." She will also be requesting that Commissioners respond to emails regarding advocacy and to spread the word.

Tucker noted that the Senate recognized CREATE, Nichols and other CREATE leaders. Johnston stated that any bills that the legislature deems essential to implementation of the budget can be raised after cut off. She said to remember that this is an election year and that there will be some turnover in the legislature.

Penney issued a challenge to all Commissioners to achieve 100% membership with WSAA.

Gerth distributed a 2006 legislative report, outlining important session dates and tracking specific bills in the House and the Senate.

## **Grants to Organizations**

Tsutakawa referred to her report on page 26 of the packet and available on file, providing descriptions of the programs, purpose and method of funding and the amount of the actual budgeted grant items. The Grants to Organizations Program assisted in funding over 49,000 events in one year with more than 8.9 million in attendance. The budget for the past year was \$1.16 million in grants just for these four categories (PSP; OSP; ISP; and CP). The program ratified today (PSP) is listed in order of size. PSP is offered twice a year and only for projects and not operating support. February 27 is the deadline for PSP. Guidelines and application forms are found on the WSAC website. Tsutakawa urged Commissioners to call with any questions.

Tsutakawa introduced Fidelma McGinn, the new Executive Director of Artist Trust, a WSAC partner. McGinn, a filmmaker, has been with Artist Trust for 3 months and previously was with a film and media organization in San Francisco.

McGinn distributed brochures about Artist Trust's 2005 WSAC Partner Fellowship Award Recipients. She credited Commissioners for their work over the years. She displayed slides of categories and recipients that were funded last year, awarded in November. The categories were crafts, media, literature and music. There were 359 applications from across the state. The awards were presented at the Northwest Forum Film Festival.

## **NEA Funding Proposals**

Tucker referred to page 37 of the packet.

She said that for many years, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) has offered WSAC money in the form of initiatives. The NEA's grant budget, including initiatives is distributed 40% directly to state arts agencies.

Challenge America money has been available for approximately 6 years. Typically, the NEA has given WSAC notice at the end of December to declare the intentions for this money by early January. This time WSAC was given 3 months to develop a proposal.

American Masterpieces is a brand new category of NEA funding. NEA funds for American Masterpieces are to support masterpieces in choral music, dance, musical theater and/or visual arts. The NEA has a separate grant application process in those specific disciplines to apply directly to the NEA. Additionally, 40% of American Masterpieces funding comes to the state arts agencies to support programs in any or all of those four disciplines. WSAC Staff has developed the proposals on page 37 and 38 for Commission support.

For Challenge America, WSAC will receive approximately \$100,000. Staff proposes using \$40,000 of the Challenge America money for project support specifically in underserved communities and \$40,000 to advance the Arts Participation Initiative. That initiative was launched with Wallace funding, which we no longer have, however Tucker stated that she and the Commission believe it is very important work. Another \$20,000 is proposed to provide training and support for WSAC's arts education partners in rural areas.

American Masterpieces includes newer ideas. They are not about grant programs but other initiatives that are very timely and fit in well with the strategic plan. WSAC has a collection of works by Washington artist, Jacob Lawrence, a member of the Washington State Arts Commission in the late 1990s and he passed away in 1999. The state art collection includes his John Brown series. Two of those pieces were lost when the WSAC offices were broken into a year ago. Staff's proposal is to do what they can to purchase or borrow those additional works and also to prepare the series for a touring exhibition and a permanent installation in an appropriate site. \$36,600 would go directly for this series. The remaining \$32,000 would produce some high quality video works on the four



disciplines. Based on preliminary conversations with media experts, we anticipate 5-minute shorts on some of the wonderful artists in Washington State in these four disciplines; the videos would be available to broadcast on TV and also on web-cast, would provide commercial quality video that would be available to include in cultural tourism and international work.

Merriman moved to accept the motion as written.

Greeley seconded.

The motion carried unanimously.

### **Budget Reports**

Tucker introduced Lou MacMillan, WSAC's new Deputy Director.

MacMillan distributed a revised FY 2006 report to replace the report on page 27 in the packet. He stated that this report was through December 2005, which includes all business transactions through the end of December and the mid-point of this fiscal year.

MacMillan discussed key highlights of the budget reports. In revenue, some adjustments were made on the Capitol Budget line, to reflect current estimated costs based on personnel shifts over the last few months.

Under expenditures, MacMillan explained that there was an increase in General Agency Administration expenditures of almost \$22,000 in this category for a variety of reasons. Staffing changes and working with a facilitator on agency assessments are included in these expenditures. A database consultant has also been recently contracted for work with the Grants to Organizations and Arts in Education databases.

MacMillan stated that WSAC is on track with Agency Administration for this point in the fiscal year. Overall, the percentage of total funds expended for administration has gone from 11% to 12%, which is within an acceptable range.

Under Program Grants and Services some costs have been reduced under Program Services to reflect savings due to some vacant positions and delays in filling them. Under Organizational Support and Cooperative Partnerships there were remaining balances of about \$1,290 that were not contracted out and therefore moved into the Project Support category.

The Strategic Planning budget was restored to support strategic planning work.

The costs for the Governor's Arts and Heritage Awards were higher than originally budgeted so an adjustment was made.

Referring to page 29, MacMillan explained the 2005-2007 biennium budget.

Regarding the revenue detail on page 30, a revision was made to update Art in Public Places for FY 2006.

MacMillan added that the NEA Challenge America and American Masterpieces grants are not included in these revenue figures because this is as of the end of December and nothing has been submitted and an award has yet to be granted.

Moore moved to accept the budget reports as written.

Merriman seconded.

The motion carried unanimously.

### **Access Committee Report**

Curtiss reviewed the Access Committee Report located in the packet and on file. She stated that she and Thatcher Bailey of Centrum were working to create an integrated dance workshop at Centrum and hope to make it a pilot project for accessibility programs at Centrum. People will be attending from as far away as New York and Chicago.

Bidwell commended the Kenneth Minnaert Arts Center for the ADA elements that reflect universal design concepts.

The Access Committee will meet again via telephone conversation and will continue discussions with all partners regarding how to work together on compliance. The committee would like to do several workshops before November 2006.

The items (also included in the packet and on file) to be considered for ratification are listed as priorities for next steps:

- 1) Recruit and convene an Access Advisory Committee of people with disabilities and/or expertise.
- 2) Commence a conversation with Cooperative Partners about their self-assessments and how their access needs can be met.
- 3) Provide introductory information about ADA/504 and access issues to arts organizations as a part of all CAD workshops.

Bidwell noted that the committee has identified three additional items to be considered, as listed in the committee report: data collection, complaint procedures, budget for access equipment.

Bruce moved to accept the recommendation to approve the three priorities for action as written.

Moore seconded.

The motion carried unanimously.

### **Public Art - Collection Care**

Huber opened her presentation with a description of the work the Art in Public Places (AIPP) team has done in the last year. The team includes Alice Taylor, Patricia Hamilton, Esther Luttikhuisen and Deane Shellman. She referred to this presentation as a continuation of the presentation at the Commission meeting in Ilwaco in August 2005.

Huber said that the communities where the artworks are sited are relied on to be stewards of the state art collection.

The artwork acquisition process has been refined by practice and by constituent input. It sets the stage for the life of the artwork, which may be 30 or more years old. Without community commitment its care will be compromised.

The 30-year-old collection needs maintenance. WSAC is working on a number of levels to take the best possible care of the artwork in the state art collection, a collection of 4500 artworks located statewide on college and university campuses, state agency sites and in public schools.

Inventories take place every couple of years as the primary tool for gathering information about the artwork in the collection. On average, there are 115 artworks per county across the state.

One of the most recent steps that WSAC has made to improve the care of the collection is in advocating for more funds. With the passage of House Bill 2188 last session, WSAC received additional flexibility to apply capital budget funds to the care of artwork. Over the past fiscal year, WSAC has been developing procedures that will guide the collection and the distribution of these funds for artwork conservation and restoration projects.

Another step was for AIPP to develop a comprehensive, holistic framework for the ongoing care of the collection. The *ArtCare* plan provides for the ongoing care of the collection, integrating into one document care-related policies, procedures, roles and responsibilities.

Taking care of an artwork includes taking care of its records and documentation; making sure the artwork includes an identification plaque, indicating the artist, title and funding source; and responding to reports of condition problems in a timely manner.

WSAC collaborates with partner agencies in numerous ways for conservation by providing financial resources, expertise working with artists and artwork, and information on conservators who may be able to perform the work. Partner agencies contribute funds and in-kind contributions to conservation. WSAC is currently spending \$1 for every \$3 spent by partner agencies on conservation.

Huber cited examples of collaboration with WSAC: The Evergreen State College, the Washington State Patrol's crime lab, conservators, craftspeople and facilities staff.

The Gifts and Transfers Policy and the Deaccession Policy are both policies recommended to the Commission by the Public Art Committee, which includes Commissioners Mandeberg, Bruce, Kessler and Leo-Gwin. The proposed policies are in the packet on page 33. The new policy articulates that the state art collection is comprised of artwork acquired through the AIPP program and not through individual gifts.

The Public Art Committee is also requesting revisions of the Deaccession Policy, which was last revised in 1999. The Deaccession Policy provides the stringent guidelines with which WSAC can remove artworks from its collection without making rash or trendy decisions. The changes are outlined in the packet. General edits are made to the language text and text was consolidated to remove items not directly related to deaccession. Some text was redundant once it was part of the *ArtCare* plan. The recommendation is that the deaccession committee be comprised of Commissioners and/or outside experts in conservation. Artwork deaccession recommendations may be brought before the Commission at any of the regular meetings at the discretion of the Executive Director and Commission Chair. Two staff roles have been clarified.

The order of artwork disposition has changed to indicate that trade is a more desirable form of disposition whenever possible. Trade should be considered before other options when feasible.

Merriman moved to accept the Gifts and Transfers and Deaccession Policies for the State Art Collection as written.

Mandeberg seconded.

The motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 2:43PM.

Penney reminded Commissioners that the next Commission meeting is May 16, 2006 in Pacso. There are four Commissioners leaving after that meeting: Merriman, Barnett, Smith and Nichols. The meeting is scheduled from 8:00AM to 4:00PM on the 16<sup>th</sup>. A celebratory event is proposed for the evening of the 15<sup>th</sup> and more information will become available.

Johnston announced that the Washington State Arts Alliance is holding its 14<sup>th</sup> annual Washington Cultural Congress, an event that is the only statewide multi-disciplinary arts conference, at the Sleeping Lady Mountain Retreat in Leavenworth April 24, 25 and 26.